



NEWS RELEASE



For Release: Thursday, January 08, 2015

15-12-BOS

NEW ENGLAND INFORMATION OFFICE: Boston, Mass.

Technical information: (617) 565-2327 • BLSInfoBoston@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/regions/new-england/

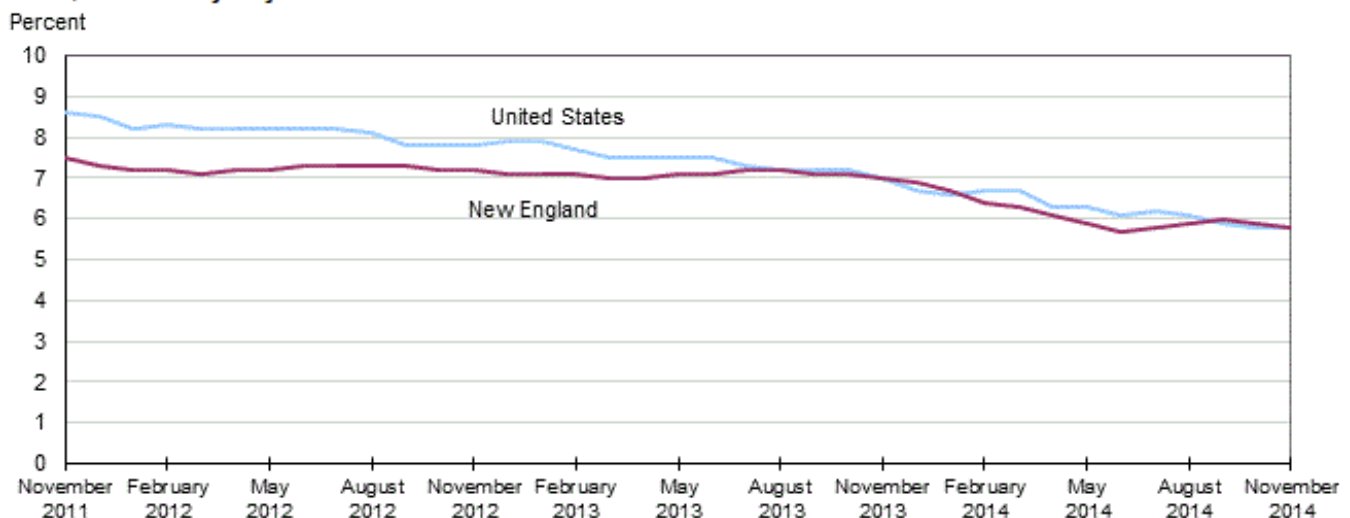
Media contact: (617) 565-2326 • BLSMediaBoston@bls.gov

New England and State Unemployment — November 2014

The New England unemployment rate was essentially unchanged at 5.8 percent in November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Deborah A. Brown noted that New England's jobless rate declined from a year ago when it was 7.0 percent. The national jobless rate was unchanged from October at 5.8 percent and was 1.2 percentage points lower than in November 2013. (See [chart 1.](#))

New England is 1 of 9 geographic divisions nationwide. Among the nine geographic divisions, the Pacific had the highest jobless rate, 6.9 percent in November. The West North Central division again had the lowest unemployment rate at 4.3 percent. All nine divisions had statistically significant rate declines from a year earlier.

Chart 1. Unemployment rates for the United States and New England, November 2011 to November 2014, seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In November, 3 of the 6 New England states had jobless rates that were significantly different from that of the United States. New Hampshire (4.1 percent) and Vermont (4.3 percent) had significantly lower unemployment rates and were among 20 states in the country to do so. In contrast, Rhode Island was

among the eight states and the District of Columbia with unemployment rates measurably higher than the national average. Rhode Island, at 7.1 percent, had the fifth-highest unemployment rate among all states and the District of Columbia. The 22 remaining states had unemployment rates not appreciably different from that of the nation.

In November, no New England state had a statistically significant unemployment rate change from October. Over the year, four New England states had statistically significant unemployment rate decreases. Rhode Island had the largest decline (-2.3 percentage points). Massachusetts had a jobless rate decrease of 1.3 percentage points and the rates in New Hampshire (-1.1 points) and Connecticut (-1.0 point) were also down over the year. Across the country, 24 additional states reported statistically significant unemployment rate declines from November 2013. The remaining 22 states and the District of Columbia had unemployment rates that were not appreciably different from a year ago.

The Regional and State Employment and Unemployment news release for December is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. (EST).

Upcoming Changes to Local Area Unemployment Statistics Data

Effective with the release of Regional and State Unemployment 2014 Annual Averages on March 4, 2015, the civilian labor force and unemployment data for regions, divisions, and states presented in tables 1 and 2 of this news release will be replaced with data produced using a new generation of time-series models. Data will be re-estimated back to January 1976 for regions, divisions, states, the District of Columbia, the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale metropolitan division, New York City, and the balances of California and New York states. Data for the five remaining modeled substate and balance-of-state areas will be re-estimated back to their new series beginnings in 1990 or 1994. Both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data will be affected. More information is available in the “Report on Revision to State and Area Time-Series Models” on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/lau/lauschanges2015.htm

The revisions to model-based data at the state level and below for 2013 and 2014 also will incorporate updated estimation inputs, while the revisions for all model-based data from April 2010 forward will reflect new population controls from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Technical Note

This release presents civilian labor force and unemployment data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) and the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. Estimates for the U.S. are obtained directly from the CPS, which is a sample survey of approximately 60,000 households nationwide that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the Census Bureau. The LAUS program produces data for subnational areas, including the nine geographic divisions (New England, Middle Atlantic, South Atlantic, East South Central, West South Central, East North Central, West North Central, Mountain, and Pacific) and the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The LAUS data for geographic divisions and states are model-based. The models for geographic divisions use inputs from

the CPS only, while the models for the states and the District of Columbia use inputs from the CPS in conjunction with estimates of nonfarm payroll employment from the Current Employment Statistics survey and counts of unemployment insurance claimants from the state workforce agencies. Each month, not-seasonally-adjusted estimates for geographic divisions are controlled to the national totals from the CPS, and state estimates are then controlled to the estimates for their divisions. Data for all divisions, as well as the 50 states and the District of Columbia, are available in the Regional and State Employment and Unemployment release www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm#news issued monthly by BLS, while national statistics are highlighted in the Employment Situation www.bls.gov/cps/home.htm#news.

Labor force and unemployment data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the end of each year. The adjusted estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model re-estimation. In most years, historical data for the most recent five years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to or coincident with the release of January estimates.

Model-based error measures for seasonally adjusted data and for over-the-month and over-the-year changes are available online at www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm. BLS uses a 90-percent confidence level in determining whether changes in LAUS unemployment rates are statistically significant. The average magnitude of the current year over-the-month change in a state unemployment rate that is required for statistical significance at the 90-percent confidence level is just over 0.2 percentage point; the average amount of the current over-the-year change in a state rate for significance is about 0.9 point. More details can be found on the website. Measures of nonsampling error are not available.

This information will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200, Federal Relay Services: (800)-877-8339.

Table 1. Labor force status for the United States, New England, and New England states, seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands)

Area	Nov 2013	Dec 2013	Jan 2014	Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Apr 2014	May 2014	June 2014	July 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014
United States ⁽¹⁾ ..													
Civilian labor force.....			(2)										
Employed.....	155,284	154,937	155,460	155,724	156,227	155,421	155,613	155,694	156,023	155,959	155,862	156,278	156,397
Unemployed	10,841	10,351	10,236	10,459	10,486	9,753	9,799	9,474	9,671	9,591	9,262	8,995	9,110
Unemployment rate	7.0	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.8
New England													
Civilian labor force.....	7,681.5	7,680.3	7,694.0	7,716.8	7,741.2	7,743.4	7,749.6	7,744.3	7,740.4	7,733.3	7,750.6	7,776.8	7,809.2
Employed.....	7,145.0	7,149.8	7,182.0	7,220.8	7,254.0	7,273.6	7,290.7	7,300.8	7,294.1	7,275.6	7,287.1	7,316.9	7,355.2
Unemployed	536.5	530.5	512.0	496.0	487.2	469.8	458.9	443.5	446.3	457.7	463.6	459.9	454.1
Unemployment rate	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.4	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.8
Connecticut													
Civilian labor force.....	1,847.9	1,845.8	1,852.2	1,857.9	1,864.8	1,868.6	1,877.6	1,878.5	1,872.1	1,870.4	1,875.6	1,886.3	(P) 1,898.8
Employed.....	1,709.2	1,709.4	1,719.3	1,727.7	1,734.3	1,740.1	1,747.9	1,753.0	1,749.3	1,747.0	1,755.8	1,764.7	(P) 1,776.1
Unemployed	138.7	136.4	132.9	130.2	130.5	128.5	129.7	125.5	122.8	123.4	119.8	121.5	(P) 122.6
Unemployment rate	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.4	(P) 6.5
Maine.....													
Civilian labor force.....	708.6	708.4	709.8	711.5	713.5	712.7	710.9	709.2	706.8	705.0	704.2	703.8	(P) 702.4
Employed.....	663.0	663.3	665.6	668.4	671.7	672.2	670.3	669.9	668.1	665.2	663.6	663.1	(P) 662.2
Unemployed	45.6	45.1	44.1	43.0	41.8	40.5	40.6	39.3	38.7	39.8	40.6	40.8	(P) 40.2
Unemployment rate	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.8	(P) 5.7
Massachusetts													
Civilian labor force.....	3,483.3	3,483.1	3,485.5	3,494.7	3,506.9	3,505.6	3,502.0	3,501.7	3,511.2	3,517.1	3,531.7	3,546.0	(P) 3,563.6
Employed.....	3,235.2	3,236.8	3,248.3	3,266.6	3,285.9	3,295.7	3,304.5	3,310.4	3,315.5	3,313.2	3,318.4	3,334.8	(P) 3,355.8
Unemployed	248.1	246.3	237.2	228.1	221.0	210.0	197.5	191.3	195.7	203.9	213.3	211.2	(P) 207.8
Unemployment rate	7.1	7.1	6.8	6.5	6.3	6.0	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.0	(P) 5.8
New Hampshire.....													
Civilian labor force.....	741.0	741.1	742.8	744.6	746.3	747.3	747.4	745.9	743.8	740.4	739.0	739.7	(P) 742.2
Employed.....	702.6	703.0	706.2	709.4	712.4	714.6	714.6	713.5	711.0	707.7	706.9	708.9	(P) 712.1
Unemployed	38.5	38.2	36.6	35.2	33.9	32.7	32.8	32.5	32.8	32.7	32.1	30.8	(P) 30.1
Unemployment rate	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.2	(P) 4.1
Rhode Island													
Civilian labor force.....	551.0	550.1	550.3	552.9	554.4	555.8	557.8	559.6	558.5	556.5	555.8	555.4	(P) 553.4
Employed.....	499.4	499.1	499.7	503.3	505.9	509.5	512.2	515.4	515.4	513.9	513.4	514.6	(P) 514.1
Unemployed	51.6	51.1	50.5	49.6	48.5	46.2	45.6	44.2	43.1	42.6	42.3	40.9	(P) 39.3
Unemployment rate	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.0	8.7	8.3	8.2	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.4	(P) 7.1
Vermont.....													
Civilian labor force.....	350.3	350.2	350.5	350.9	351.1	351.0	351.1	350.9	351.0	350.2	350.2	350.9	(P) 351.8

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Labor force status for the United States, New England, and New England states, seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands) - Continued

Area	Nov 2013	Dec 2013	Jan 2014	Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Apr 2014	May 2014	June 2014	July 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014
Employed.....	335.1	335.4	336.6	337.9	339.0	339.5	339.6	338.9	338.0	335.8	334.9	335.5	(P) 336.5
Unemployed	15.2	14.8	13.9	12.9	12.1	11.5	11.5	12.0	13.1	14.4	15.4	15.5	(P) 15.2
Unemployment rate	4.3	4.2	4.0	3.7	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.7	4.1	4.4	4.4	(P) 4.3

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Labor force status for the United States, New England, and New England states, seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands) - Continued

⁽¹⁾ Data for the U.S. are obtained directly from the national Current Population Survey (CPS) and are not preliminary. Seasonally adjusted CPS data have been revised as a result of routine seasonal updates processed at the end of each calendar year.

⁽²⁾ Data affected by changes in population controls.

^(P) Preliminary

**Table 2. Civilian labor force and unemployment by census region and division, seasonally adjusted
(numbers in thousands)**

Census region and division	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
	Nov 2013	Sept 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Number				Percent of the labor force			
					Nov 2013	Sept 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Nov 2013	Sept 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014
Northeast	28,211.1	28,142.2	28,205.9	28,244.2	2,003.0	1,711.8	1,677.4	1,628.1	7.1	6.1	5.9	5.8
New England	7,681.5	7,750.6	7,776.8	7,809.2	536.5	463.6	459.9	454.1	7.0	6.0	5.9	5.8
Middle Atlantic	20,529.6	20,391.5	20,429.2	20,435.0	1,466.5	1,248.2	1,217.5	1,174.0	7.1	6.1	6.0	5.7
South	56,512.7	56,820.6	56,919.8	56,934.0	3,707.5	3,526.8	3,436.9	3,294.9	6.6	6.2	6.0	5.8
South Atlantic	29,943.4	30,217.6	30,253.7	30,236.6	1,973.0	1,964.8	1,909.6	1,813.5	6.6	6.5	6.3	6.0
East South Central	8,469.5	8,370.5	8,363.7	8,347.3	638.7	589.3	564.3	539.6	7.5	7.0	6.7	6.5
West South Central	18,099.7	18,232.5	18,302.4	18,350.1	1,095.8	972.7	963.0	941.7	6.1	5.3	5.3	5.1
Midwest	34,258.7	34,393.4	34,495.8	34,553.6	2,352.8	1,967.6	1,921.8	1,853.1	6.9	5.7	5.6	5.4
East North Central	23,249.1	23,282.7	23,359.2	23,401.4	1,816.9	1,443.3	1,421.7	1,376.5	7.8	6.2	6.1	5.9
West North Central	11,009.6	11,110.7	11,136.6	11,152.2	535.9	524.4	500.1	476.6	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.3
West	36,003.5	36,280.4	36,414.6	36,533.6	2,731.0	2,368.7	2,359.6	2,352.9	7.6	6.5	6.5	6.4
Mountain	11,067.7	11,162.0	11,185.3	11,221.4	739.1	623.2	604.6	595.1	6.7	5.6	5.4	5.3
Pacific	24,935.8	25,118.3	25,229.3	25,312.2	1,991.9	1,745.5	1,755.0	1,757.8	8.0	6.9	7.0	6.9

Note: Census region estimates are derived by summing the Census division model-based estimates. Data refer to place of residence. Regions are defined as the four Census regions, comprised as follows: Northeast Region includes the New England Division - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; and the Middle Atlantic Division - New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. South Region includes the South Atlantic Division - Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia; East South Central Division - Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee; and West South Central Division - Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. Midwest Region includes the East North Central - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; and the West North Central Division - Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. West Region includes the Mountain Division - Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington. Estimates for the current year are subject to revision early in the following calendar year.